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JUN 1 1 2004

32692 Customer Number Patent
Case No.: 56731US002

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor:

KUTA, LEROY A.

Application No.:

09/883144

Group Art Unit:

1734

Filed:

June 15, 2001

Examiner:

Mark A. Osele

Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY APPLYING A FLYING

SPLICING TAPE TO A ROLL OF SHEET MATERIAL

## **AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

To Fax No.: 703-872-9306

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent

and Trademark Office on:

Date

JUN 1 1 2004

Signed by: Kathleen M. Murry

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the outstanding Office Action, mailed April 13, 2004, in the above-identified application.

This Amendment is believed to be timely submitted. It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.